

The Broadwing



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Message from the Editor April 2023

Dear Members and Friends,

You will find two announcements in this issue. On page 3, headed by a David Sibley image of the Montclair Hawkwatch looking towards New York City, is a World Series of Birding opportunity for everyone. Please check it out, definitely participate, and contribute if you can. We would love to see entries from everywhere.

On the financial front, we have started to use Venmo for dues. You will now have the option to pay online or to send a check. The notice and instructions will be on our website in the 2023-2024 fiscal year.

Sandy

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Next club meeting: Wednesday, April 12, 2023
Virtual Bird Walk: Thursday, April 27, 2023
Theme: Woodpeckers of the World



A hippo swims in Colombia's Magdalena River, near where Pablo Escobar's compound was located. Fernando Vergara/AP/Shutterstock

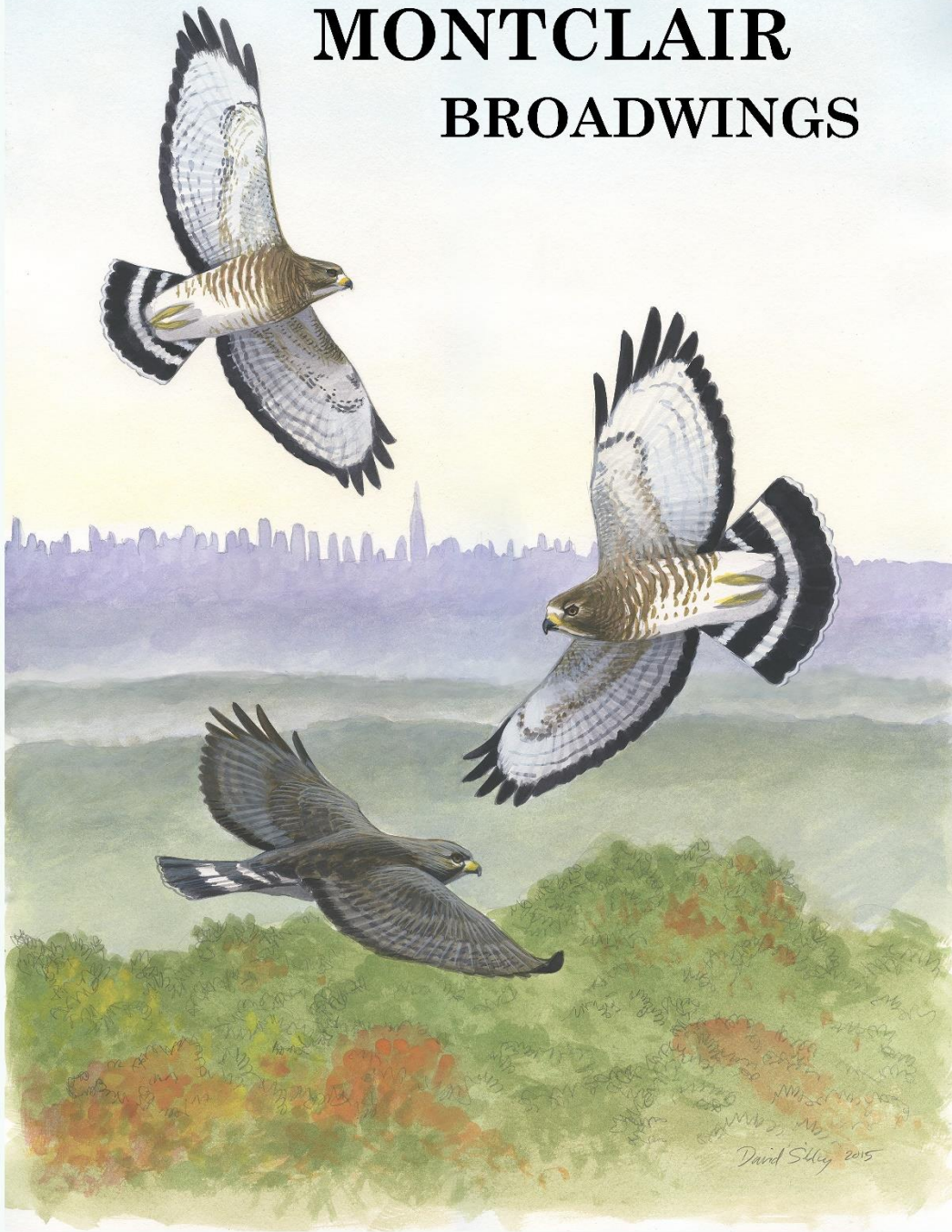
Pablo Escobar's "cocaine hippos" spark conservation row: Researchers worry that the Colombian environment ministry will side with animal-rights activists rather than curb the invasive animals' spread.

Colombian environment minister Susana Muhamad has triggered fear among researchers that she will protect, rather than reduce, a growing population of invasive hippos threatening the country's natural ecosystems and biodiversity. Although she did not directly mention the hippos—a contentious issue in Colombia—[Muhamad said during a speech in late January](#) that her ministry would create policies to prioritize animal well-being, including the creation of a new division of animal protection.

The hippos escaped from the drug-cartel leader Pablo Escobar's estate after he died in 1993. Left alone, the male and three females that Escobar had illegally imported from a US zoo established themselves in Colombia's Magdalena River and some small lakes nearby—part of the country's main watershed. After years of breeding, the "cocaine hippos" have multiplied to about 150 individuals, scientists estimate.

Nature: [Hippos](#)

MONTCLAIR BROADWINGS



Painting by David Sibley, with permission of the artist

Calling all MBC members, former Montclair hawkwatchers and counters, interns, friends, and family of the Montclair Hawkwatch to join and support the bird club's **Montclair Broadwings**, who will be participating in the World Series of Birding on May 13, 2023. The **Montclair Broadwings** are raising funds in support of the Montclair Hawkwatch, a New Jersey Audubon sanctuary in Montclair, New Jersey. Our goal is to raise \$50,000, with a stretch goal of \$75,000.

The Hawkwatch is a significant site for monitoring migrating hawks, averaging over 15,000 broad-winged hawks in the skies above Montclair each fall on their annual migration to South America. The Hawkwatch also hosts educational programs on raptor migration for school groups and members of the general public.

“Counting For Else” is the theme of our team. The late Else Greenstone, a former MBC president, coordinated the Hawkwatch for over 30 years. She was a noted hawk migration expert and educator, and was responsible for introducing thousands of people to the wonder of raptors, and mentored dozens of hawk counters and future conservationists.

There are four ways you can participate:

- 1) **You can register to join the *Montclair Broadwings* [here](#), then count birds on May 13 to add to the team’s species list.** All team members must register by May 5, and there is no cost to register. After registering, all you have to do is enter into Cornell’s eBird platform all the bird species you see between the hours of midnight EDT and 11:59 p.m. EDT on May 13. You can count wherever in the world you are within that 24-hour window: in New Jersey or any other state, even in any country; on a hike, a field trip, in a park or backyard, or just looking out the window. eBird will aggregate the lists of all team members to create what we hope will be the biggest and most diverse bird species list of any team in the World Series. Detailed instructions on how to use eBird’s trip report function will be sent in a future email.
- 2) **Donate.** You can support the *Montclair Broadwings* and help the team reach its fundraising goal by donating [here](#). If you decide to join the team and count bird species as a team member, you can still provide financial support as well.
- 3) A local contingent of the *Montclair Broadwings* will conduct a Big Sit at Mills Reservation between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. All are welcome to join us there ([directions here](#) and at MontclairBirdClub.org).
- 4) **Get the word out.** Share this newsletter with your friends, co-workers, and family to let them know about the World Series of Birding. Encourage them to join the team, count birds that day, and make a pledge to support our team. If your company engages in charitable giving, ask if they would consider pledging, or have them email Wayne Greenstone (wglaw2@verizon.net) for more information.

About the Painting: To support the team, the noted author, ornithologist, and artist David Allen Sibley has given the *Montclair Broadwings* permission to use his painting of the view from the Montclair Hawkwatch.

Ric Cohn's Pictures from Cape Ann



Fruitlessly searching for the Steller sea eagle



Great black-backed gulls performing a duet



A male common eider.

Razorbill.





Red crossbill.



Surf scoter.

Cape Ann Massachusetts February 15-17, 2023

After a three-year pandemic absence, Montclair Bird Club resumed their annual sojourn to Cape Ann, Massachusetts. Nine members and friends joined up for a fun Valentine Day dinner at one of the many excellent restaurants that Newburyport is known for. The next morning it was off to the Gloucester and Rockport areas. We began at Magnolia and started scanning the ocean for wintering waterfowl and alcids. From there we made three stops at the harbor at Gloucester. Continuing on we checked out Niles Beach, Eastern Point Lighthouse and jetty and then headed to Rockport. Birding stops at Rockport included the harbor, the Granite Pier and Andrews and Emerson Points. The ocean was relatively calm, and we were able to easily find all three species of scoters, common and red-throated loons, harlequin and long-tailed ducks, and common goldeneye. The pier in Gloucester is always a good location to see common eider and red-breasted mergansers up close and this year was no exception. What was a pleasant surprise was locating several Iceland gulls since none had been reported. One never knows! Passerines were almost non-existent on this part of the tour—a bit unusual—as were shorebirds. The weather was unseasonably mild and new participants were probably wondering why I had insisted on them bringing many warm layers. Mind you, this is not a complaint!

Next day a vote was taken, and it was unanimous to head up to Maine to chase the Steller Sea Eagle that had returned to the Bath area for its second winter. Disclaimer—Don and I had finally (after four tries) seen it the day before the official trip started but were happy to try to locate it again. It was less than a two-hour drive to the Georgetown area of Maine and there we planted ourselves on the infamous bridge where many sightings had occurred. It was downright balmy and hats and gloves were not needed. What an interesting commentary on climate change for February in Maine. It was a beautiful sunny day and there were many bald eagles flying about along with the smaller birds we had missed including eastern bluebird, white-breasted and red-breasted nuthatches, black-capped chickadee and tufted titmouse. Common ravens were calling and flying around and black ducks and mallards were seen in the distance. Alas, no great big eagle.

I believe Don and I may have been part of the last group of people that got to enjoy this majestic bird on 2/14—no sightings since to the best of my knowledge. We made the most of it though. There is really no bad day of birding. We headed down the New Hampshire coast in the afternoon and stopped at some of the state parks. Alcids were in fairly good numbers - black guillemots and razorbills were well seen by all. Unfortunately, we missed the only snowy owl that had been seen off and on this winter along the coast. In fact, this was one of the few Cape Ann trips in forty years that no species of owls were tallied.

Friday's forecast had rain predicted for mid-morning but it held off until later in the day allowing us a pleasant time at Salisbury Reservation and Plum Island/Park River National Wildlife Refuge. A few more species of duck were added to the list—ring-necked and Northern pintail. Finally, a winter finch—a flock of about 20 red crossbills were found in the campground area. They were at first elusive giving everyone teasing looks as they kept flying ahead of us. A bit later, we came upon them again and found several on the ground allowing some of our photographers decent shots. Although reports from Parker River NWR were not too exciting,

we took a few hours to check it out so our new participants got a feel for the diversity of habitats that our Cape Ann trip offers. There were 65 species tallied on my list - some people had a few more or less. The weather more than cooperated, the dinners were a delightful time to recap the days sightings and the friendship shared priceless. We are already looking forward to the next Cape Ann adventure!

Canada goose	Common Loon
Mute swan	Northern Gannet
Gadwall	Great Cormorant
Mallard	Turkey vulture
American black duck	Northern harrier
Northern pintail	Sharp-shinned hawk
American wigeon	Bald Eagle
Ring-necked duck	Red-tailed hawk
Common eider	Belted kingfisher
Harlequin duck	Downy woodpecker
Ruddy duck	American crow
Greater scaup	Common raven
Surf Scoter	Black-capped chickadee
White-winged scoter	Tufted titmouse
Black scoter	Red-breasted nuthatch
Long-tailed duck	White-breasted nuthatch
Bufflehead	European starling
Common goldeneye	Northern mockingbird
Hooded merganser	Eastern bluebird
Red-breasted merganser	American robin
Wild Turkey	Cedar waxwing
Horned grebe	House sparrow
Red-necked grebe	House finch
Rock Pigeon	Red crossbill
Mourning Dove	American goldfinch
Razorbill	American tree sparrow
Black Guillemot	Dark-eyed junco
Ring-billed Gull	Song sparrow
Herring Gull	Red-winged blackbird
Iceland Gull	Common grackle
Great Black-backed Gull	Northern cardinal
Red-throated Loon	

New disease caused by plastics discovered in seabirds

Natural History Museum scientists say plasticosis, which scars the digestive tract, is likely to affect other types of bird, too.

A new disease caused solely by plastics has been discovered in seabirds.

The birds identified as having the disease, which has been named plasticosis, have scarred digestive tracts from ingesting waste, scientists at the Natural History Museum in London say.

This is the first recorded instance of specifically plastic-induced fibrosis in wild animals, researchers say.

Plastic pollution is becoming so prevalent that the scarring was widespread across different ages of birds, according to the study, which was [published in the Journal of Hazardous Materials](#). Even young birds were found to have the disease, and it is thought chicks were being fed the plastic pollution by parents accidentally bringing it back in food.

Complete story in [The Guardian](#)

End the era of eponyms

It's time to axe the practice of naming species after individuals, say eleven ecologists and biologists. They admit that "any call for exceptional changes in how we name nature requires an exceptional rationale." But [they argue that "eponyms" burden the foundation of taxonomy with political baggage](#)—especially the residue of colonialism. For example, more than 60% of the eponymous names given to the flora of New Caledonia refer to French citizens, and 94% of them honor men.

[Nature Ecology and Evolution](#)

Flamingos found to form cliques with like-minded pals

"Our previous research showed that individual flamingos have particular "friends" within the flock," said Dr. Paul Rose, from WWT and Exeter's Center for Research in Animal Behavior.

"In this study, we wanted to find out whether individual character traits explain why these friendships form. The answer is yes—birds of a feather flock together."

The full story: [Flamingos](#)

Newborn chicks are attracted to objects that move upwards.

From birth, animals can use their spontaneous preferences (predispositions that are not learned) to decide which stimuli to attend to and approach. Previous research has shown that infants and newborn chicks, with no previous experience of other animals, are spontaneously attracted by the movement of living organisms. Now, new findings demonstrate that the movement against gravity can be particularly good in attracting our attention, since only living beings can consistently move upward against gravity. This research is an important contribution to our understanding of inner cognitive models of behavior and activity in early stages of life.

The full story, in *Biology Letters*: [Chicks](#)

Newser.com

This Odd Stowaway Lived on a Cruise Ship for Weeks

In late January, a burrowing owl caused headaches for Florida Fish and Wildlife officials when it decided to stow away for two weeks on a Royal Caribbean cruise ship. The [small owl](#), named for its habit of nesting and roosting underground in locations like golf courses, is well adapted to living around humans, and tends to be a beneficial predator, feeding on insects and small mammals such as rodents. The [Washington Post](#) reports that this owl also appeared to adopt human vacation habits, and tagged along as a nonpaying guest on the *Symphony of the Seas* as the ship cruised the Caribbean. A Florida wildlife official captured the bird after the ship docked.

The full story and [video](#).

Tiny Bird, Tiny Bird

Robert J. Chase



Photo by Blythe Anderson Chase

*Every morning just past dawn, a bird lights in a tree
Outside my window glass. She's come to sing to me.
Wakes me with her gentle trills, a smile fills my head
With confidence to carry on, courage to get out of bed.*

*Not nimble as once I was, not free to move with ease,
Nor fly with birds above the clouds or play tag with the breeze.
Locked behind this window pane, my guests less frequent here.
Some are not allowed to come, some no longer care.*

*But she still visits every day and makes my old heart throb.
Memories of younger years the thief of time has robbed.
A soloist, she sings for joy, her notes so strong and bright.
Each time I hear her, my heart soars, imaginings take flight.*

*In spring, the dawn comes earlier and likewise so does she
With playmates—pink and yellow flowers—and a love song just for me.*

*Her nighttime must be short in spring, so little time to rest.
But faithful, she returns each day as on her quiet quest.*

*I wonder where she lays her head, anticipates the sun.
I only know she's here on cue; how I look forward to her song.
Days grow long as summer comes, but she knows all about time
And how the light plays off the earth, an intricate design,
Weather warms and hard rains fall and still she's here each day,
Dappled sunlight on her wing, her melody at play.*

*And sometimes, on a special day, she returns at eventide
Just before the sun goes down and the moon begins to rise
The now-familiar tune I hear, my heart aburst with joy.
Two visits in a single day! How fortunate am I.
Her peaceful presence fills my room and everything's all right
If but one endless moment on the very edge of night.*

*My voice is but a whisper now; how could she ever know
How I look forward to her song, and how I love her so.
I hold my palm against the pane, but cannot really reach her
Or let her perch on trembling hand, my tiny avian teacher.*

*I long to sing a song to her and let her hear first-hand
What her sweet tune means to me in a way she'd understand.
As days grow short, she stops and rests on that tree of mine,
Assures me though the sun is late, tomorrow it will shine.*

*Her stays mean more in autumn's gloom than in the springtime sun.
Days wind down, yet she remains, this faithful flock of one.
The thing that I can still hold dear, the thing that's never wrong:
This tiny bird who visits me and sings her gentle song.*

As snow clouds threaten in the west, I fear she'll fly away

*To distant lands that I know not, a place where she will stay
A winter home so safe and warm—guess I'll survive the pain—
But why? Without my tiny bird, to give me strength again
To face the trials of this life, without my feathered friend
To mark each day and let me know
That I can still hold onto life
Until it's time to go.*



Blythe Anderson Chase

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Montclair Bird Club 2023 Bird of the Year

The nominations are in, and we've made a decision. Fortunately, the selected bird was accompanied by a spectacular picture. I want to thank the individuals who forgot their first choice and sent me a second choice, and also those who cast single votes for Big Bird and Rocky the Flying Squirrel. The squirrel was disqualified for the obvious reason, but Big Bird was entertained quite seriously, though with very little discussion. Four pictures accompanied nominees:



Eastern Screech-owl
Gary DeRemer
For a repeat performance



Carolina Chickadee
Rick Wright



Pileated Woodpecker
Donna Traylor

Montclair Bird Club
2023 Bird of the Year
Belted Kingfisher



2023 Winning Bird
Photo Credit: Ric Cohn
Picture taken at Garret Mountain Reservation

Migrant Trap
III
Æneas Faber

I glanced over to see if Tuck was listening; I wasn't sure, as the speedometer needle slipped past 85, whether I should be relieved or not to see him completely absorbed in scanning the sky and the fenceposts as they whizzed past the car windows. With one hand on the wheel and the other gripping his half-raised Swarovskis, he was reciting the litany of open-country birds we passed: "Vesper...kestrel...dickcissel..." I half turned to Phoebe: "Phoebe, you know how fond I am of Anne, and you know too that my relationship with Do is purely professional—apart from the birding aspect, of course. I don't understand why Anne is suddenly so hostile, but it certainly can't be that she's jealous.—Slow down, Tuck, there were godwits on this pasture last weekend.—It's probably something at work; I know that Decker has been having some problems, and Anne has been pretty much running the copy shop for him. And I really don't think there's much I can do to make her feel more included—come on, Tuck, if you're going to use those bins, at least take your foot off the gas—we asked her to come on the big day, didn't we?"

Seven gray partridges flew across the road, uncharacteristically landing in a patch of short vegetation where we could watch them; Tuck came to what nearly constituted a stop, and Phoebe took a moment to update the list. I poured myself a cup of strong birder's coffee, burned my mouth, and thought about what Phoebe had said about Anne. And about Do.

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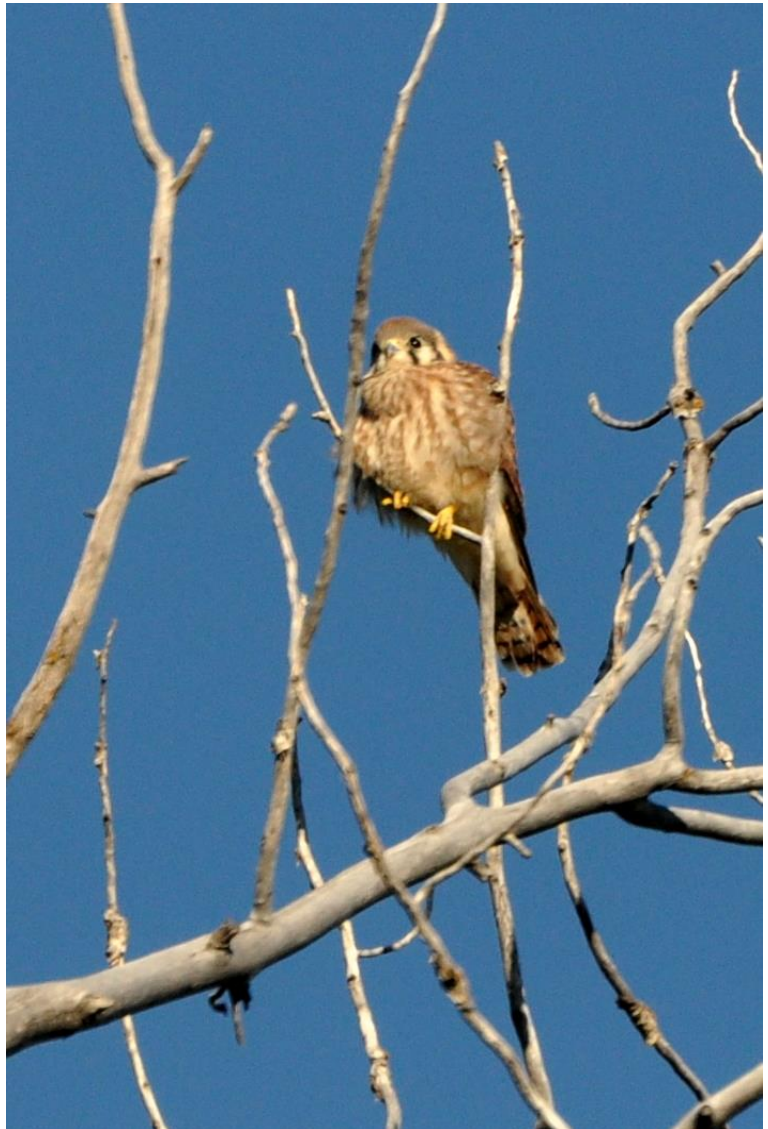
The traditional midnight gathering that followed the big day turned out pretty much as we'd expected. Tired as we all were, spirits were nonetheless high as the teams arrived at the club's modest headquarters, The Cave, and chalked their totals onto the blackboard. Thanks less to their superior birding skill than to a disregard of speed limits even more flagrant than Tuck's, Les Ospina's group showed up with a more than respectable total of 168, only three shy of the all-time county record. They had even come up with a least bittern, my long-time "nemesis bird" and an exceedingly scarce species around Averno, or for that matter anywhere in the state, with only a single more or less reliable site in a marsh near Whiteshog.

But as expected, our black-throated gray was still far and away the best rarity any team turned up all day. Dorothy blushed charmingly as expensive glasses of cheap champagne—Cold Duck, what else?—were raised in her honor, and we all parted amid reminders of the next club meeting and field trip. I had thought that Do might need a lift home, but I suppose that I was glad to see her getting ready to leave with Anne; from across the room, each smiled at me,

furtively, I thought, and in turn, each, it seemed, when she thought the other wasn't looking.

I went into the tiny kitchen to help finish with the clean-up. Phoebe, who still maintained an almost proprietary pride in The Cave and its furnishings even years after donating them to the club, was carefully drying glasses; as she handed them to Tuck and me, we put them neatly into the tall metal cupboards that had once held her father's egg collection. Phoebe thanked us, and as she gathered up her things, quietly asked me to pay her a visit the next afternoon: "At a reasonable hour, of course; I know you too well to expect you to sleep late on a mid-May morning, but a nap after lunch wouldn't hurt any of us. Why don't you come by around three-thirty? There's something we need to talk about." Phoebe, like the rest of us, had been awake for nearly twenty-four hours, but she was obviously still alert enough to catch the suspicion that crossed my face; she laughed, and to reassure me, added, "Don't worry, Andy, it's business; I promise not to so much as mention your little love triangle!" The smile froze on Phoebe's face, and I turned to see Anne standing in the kitchen door, waiting to say good night.

To be continued



Montclair Bird Club Upcoming Field Trips

April 15 (rain date April 22) Mill Creek Marsh Photography Trip

Join us for a Montclair Bird Club photography field trip to Mill Creek Marsh. We'll meet at the entrance gate by Bob's Discount Furniture at 8 a.m. with cameras, tripods, scopes, and smartphones. We'll take our time on the trail, keeping the sun over our shoulders and concentrating on photographing birds, landscapes, butterflies, groundhogs, and any other slice of nature we encounter. If you are new to photography or just prefer to watch photographers, you are welcome to come along. Email Sandy Sorkin at MontclairBirdClub100@gmail.com if you have questions.

Directions to Mill Creek Marsh from the Montclair area:

Search your GPS for Mill Creek Marsh Trail, Secaucus, NJ 07094, or for Bob's Discount Furniture and Mattress Store, 3 Mill Creek Dr., Secaucus, NJ 07094. The entrance to the marsh is right next to the furniture store.

1. Take NJ Route 3 East. Stay to the right, as you will want to get onto the Service Road.
2. Follow NJ-3 E to State Rd 3 E Local in Secaucus (Service Road). Take the exit toward North Bergen/Kennedy Blvd/I-95 from NJ-3 E. The exit comes up quickly, *immediately* after the second overpass.
3. Take Harmon Meadow Blvd. and Park Plaza Dr. to your destination. Once on Harmon Meadow Blvd., there is a T-intersection by Sam's Club; turn left and stay to the right. This will take you to the Mill Creek Marsh entrance next to the furniture store.

April 24 (rain date April 25) Paulinskill Wildlife Management Area (Hyper Humus)

Meet at 8:30 a.m. in the parking lot at Warbasse Junction Rd., Lafayette, NJ.

Paulinskill Wildlife Management Area (Hyper Humus) consists of ponds, marshes, and wooded areas providing diverse habitats for plants, birds, and other animals. The area was once a large bog, filled with endemic plants. In the early 1800s, the bog was partially drained in an effort to decrease the mosquito population. Mining of the peat bog began in the early 1900s, creating

several ponds. Once the peat mining stopped, the Scotts Company used the facility along Route 94 to bring in and package peat moss, but they were forced to close due to excessive truck traffic. The packaging facility was bought by Carson Construction, and the rest of the property was donated to the state, becoming Paulinskill Wildlife Management Area. The Paulinskill and Sussex Branch rail trails border the property.

Our trail will be fairly flat, with occasional slight rises in elevation, and some spots might be wet if it has rained recently. We will start along the Paulinskill River rail trail and then walk into Hyper Humus. We will be looking for early migrants, waterfowl, and the nesting bald eagles. There is always something different to see at this rich and diverse hotspot. Bring binoculars, a scope if you have one, water, and a snack. This trip will last about half the day.

NOTE: There is construction at the bridge on Warbasse Junction Rd. just north of the parking lot, so you can't access it from Route 94. If coming north on Route 15, turn left onto Sunset Inn Rd. (Quik Check and Exxon stations are at this corner), then take the first right onto Sunset Inn Limecrest/Garrison Rd. (the two names are on Google Maps, but most know it as Garrison Rd.). At the "T," make the right turn onto Warbasse Junction Rd.; the parking lot will be about half a mile ahead on the left. There is a bathroom there.

For more information or questions, contact the trip leader, Karyn, at kdc05@ptd.net.

May 4 (rain date May 5) Central Park, Manhattan

A Birder's Meet-up

Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the northeast corner of 72nd Street and Central Park West, across the street from the B and C subway entrances and the Dakota apartment building.

In the midst of the steel and concrete of New York City, Central Park is an oasis of trees and plants, insects and other food sources for birds migrating along the Atlantic coast. Over 210 species of birds have been seen in Central Park, and the club member and NYC resident Ardith Bondi has offered to show us around the park and familiarize us with some of its bird-rich areas.

Expect a 3-hour walk. Bring binoculars, and wear a hat and good walking shoes. You may need bug spray and sunscreen.

We will go to a nearby restaurant for a late breakfast/early lunch after birding. Please let Beni know at mbcoutings@gmail.com if you want to join us.

May 13 (rain date May 14) South Mountain Reservation, West Orange

Meet at 7:30 a.m. in the main parking lot on Crest Drive (second on the right; you'll see a wooden sign that says Bramhall Terrace, entrance to Summit Field).

South Mountain Reservation is a 2,100-acre nature reserve in southern Essex County. Nestled between the first and second ridges of the Watchung Mountains and overlooking the urban sprawl of the greater Newark area, it can serve as a tremendous migrant trap in the heat of spring migration. We will walk several trails in the reservation and hope to see good numbers of warblers, thrushes, sparrows, and other birds taking advantage of the feeding opportunities in the varied habitats here. Many of the trails are paved, but it is recommended that you wear sturdy hiking boots, as some trails can be a little rocky and uneven.

For more information, email mbcoutings@gmail.com.

Directions from the Montclair area: From Exit 7 on I-280, take Pleasant Valley Way south for 3.5 miles, then turn left onto South Orange Avenue. Take this road for 1 mile and turn right onto Crest Drive, marked with a sign for the dog park (you will encounter Crest Drive just after you've reached the crest of the hill). Stay straight on Crest Drive; within half a mile, there will be a very long parking lot on the right, in an open space with a vista to your left. We will meet at the far end of this parking lot.

Cold Brook Farm, Tewksbury, NJ Saturday, May 27, 2023 8:30AM (Rain or shine: trip to be held unless it is pouring)

Join us at Cold Brook Farm, the home of club members Deb and Jason DeSalvo. We will explore the farm fields, wooded areas, river, and wetlands on and bordering their property to discover the many different migratory and breeding bird species that use this restored property to refuel and to nest. Deb and Jason have been working hard to remove invasive plant species and to plant native species to improve the habitat for insects, birds, and other animals, so it is a real treat to explore this bird-friendly habitat. Last year, we visited earlier in May and saw 39 species, including four swallows.

Bring binoculars, a snack, and something to drink. If it has rained recently, waterproof boots are recommended.

Email mbcoutings@gmail.com if you want to attend. The address and driving directions will be sent to you once you register.

Tuesday, June 27, 2023 (rain date: Wed. June 28)

Let's Go Birding in Nassau County, Long Island, New York!

**Nickerson Beach Park, Lido Beach, NY and Oceanside Marine Nature Study Area,
Oceanside, NY**

Meet at 8:30 a.m. in the Nickerson Beach Park parking lot (FYI: Before 9 a.m., nonresidents can enter for free. From 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. there is a \$37 nonresident fee to enter.)

Nickerson Beach will be our first stop on this exploration of two LI hot spots. In June, Nickerson Beach is known for its nesting bird colonies. Common terns, least terns, black skimmers, American oystercatchers, and piping plovers all nest along the beach. Sanderlings, in breeding plumage, are usually found running in and out of the waves and, with good luck, a gull-billed tern or two may show up. The large freshwater pond by the parking lot is often a feeding spot for both night-herons, various egrets, and glossy ibis while terns and skimmers fly in and out to bathe and drink. After we enjoy all the delights of Nickerson Beach, we will drive about 20 minutes to Oceanside Marine Nature Study Area which is a tidal salt marsh. There we hope to see clapper rails, purple martins, osprey, saltmarsh sparrows, Forster's terns, nesting willets, various sandpipers, great and snowy egrets, various herons and tree swallows. A forested patch in the preserve often hosts warblers, flycatchers, butterflies and sparrows. And, of course, lots of dragonflies inhabit the marsh. The beautiful grasses of the marsh make for many attractive photographic opportunities as the birds often feed among the grasses.

Bring: binoculars, a scope if you have one, lunch in a cooler (there are picnic tables at both locations), sunscreen, sunhat, bug repellent, good walking shoes. We will be walking along sandy but level paths. There are restrooms at both locations.

GPS address for Nickerson Beach: 880 Lido Boulevard, Lido Beach, NY

Website for directions to Nickerson Beach: <https://www.nassaucountyny.gov/2802/Nickerson-Beach-Park> (click on link on right hand side for online directions)

Website for more information about Oceanside Marine Nature Study Area:
<https://sites.google.com/view/marine-nature-study-area>

Contact us at mbcoutings@gmail.com with any questions, if you will be joining us, and to coordinate carpooling.

THE BACKYARD AND BEYOND

February 2 to April 30, in the Wayrick Gallery at the NJA Scherman Hoffman Sanctuary

This show is about a journey of birding photography, beginning right where you live and expanding outward to other horizons. It showcases a part of my own photographic journey of discovery and expansion into new and unexplored areas. Ultimately, I hope that it will in some small way inspire others to begin their own photographic journey from right where they are and expand into something greater. The Gallery of Images is divided into four parts:



Backyard Birds. Start where you live. Take a moment to stop and look at the treasure that is right in front of you. You might be surprised at what you find!

Shore Birds. Explore the incredible birding diversity that New Jersey waters provide.

Raptors. Our Garden State provides many more opportunities to photograph birds of prey than many would think.

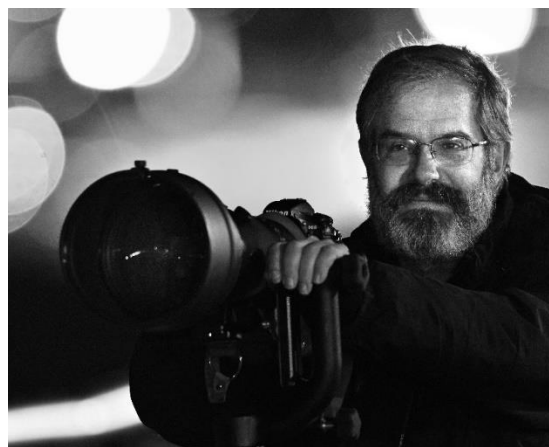
Beyond. Time to blaze your own photographic trail. Create your own personal projects. Tell a story unique to you, a tale that is personal and rooted in your experiences. Share what you see with others through the medium of photography.

I have sincerely enjoyed capturing the images chosen for this show, and hope you will enjoy them too.

Robert Mathewson

Robert Mathewson is a full-time professional photographer with bachelor's and master's degrees in cinema from Bob Jones University. He has also earned Certified Professional Photographer status from the Professional Photographers of America, and holds the position of program chair on the board of that group's New Jersey chapter (PPANJ).

Mathewson states, "In recent years, wildlife photography generally and bird photography specifically have become a passion of mine. I love sharing my appreciation of creation with others through photography."



Virtual Bird Walks

2020

July	1	Local Birding
August	2	Backyards and a Marsh
September	3	Backyards and Trips
October	4	Member Birding
November	5	Member Birding
December	6	Member Birding

2021

January	7	International Birding and New York City
February	8	International Birding
March	9	Member Birding
April	10	Shore Birds
May	11	Local Birding
June	12	Member Birding
July	13	Birding, Costa Rica
August	14	Identify a Bird by Its Eyes
September	15	Birds and Water
October	16	Birds with Masks
November	17	Winter Birds

2022

January	18	Personal Choice
February	19	Color
March	20	Signs of Spring
April	21	Birds Eating or Black & White Birds
May	22	Local Birds
September	23	My Summer
November	24	Bird Pairs
December	25	A Trip

2023

January	26	Winter
February	27	A Month in a Birder's Life
March	28	Egrets, Herons, and Wading Birds
April	29	Woodpeckers

Montclair Bird Club Meetings

2020

May	An Online Quiz, with Rick Wright.
June	A Walk on Pipeline Road, by Sandy Sorkin.
July	The Real James Bond, by Jim Wright.
August	An Online Quiz, with Rick Wright.
September	Manakins and Microbes, by Jennifer Houtz.
October	Bizarre Breeding Behaviors of Tropical Cuckoos, by Christine Riehl.
November	Dispersal in Young Peregrine Falcons, by Elise Morton.
December	An MBC Story Slam, by Pamela Olsen.

2021

January	Modern-Day Exploration in the Tropics, by Dan Lane.
February	Winter Raptors, by Giselle Smisko.
March	Damselflies and Dragonflies: The Other White Meat, by George Nixon.
April	Wolf Natural History and Tourism in Yellowstone, by Paul Brown.
May	Sandhills and Saw-whets, by Matthew Schuler.
June	Magnificent Namibia, by Linda Woodbury.
September	Raptors, by Wayne Greenstone.
October	Watershed, by Hazel England.
November	Build-a-Bird, with Rick Wright.

2022

January	A Tale of Many Penguins, by Ardith Bondi.
February	Oh! Canada, by Chris Sturm.
March	Tracking the Migration of New Jersey Birds Using the Motus Network, by Cailin O'Connor.
April	Spotlighting Voices in Bird Conservation, by Mardi Dickinson.
May	101 Great Birds from Around the World, by Mark Garland.
June	Member's Meeting.
September	Exploring the Big Bend in Southwest Texas, by Donna Traylor.
October	Build-a-Bird, with Rick Wright.
November	On Safari: Botswana and South Africa, by Ric Cohn.

2023

January	America's Iconic Birdman: Frank Chapman, by James Huffstodt.
February	A Bird Club in San Diego, by Rick Wright
March	The peregrine project, by Wayne Quinto Greenstone
April	Piping Plovers on the Rockaway Peninsula, by Chris Allieri

2022–2023 Officers

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Vice President	Evan Cutler
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Treasurer	Sandy Sorkin

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Wayne Greenstone
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Rick Wright

From the Editor's Desk

Please feel free to email any items you would like included in future issues of *The Broadwing*. Please include pictures and any other news that will reduce anxiety and make us smile.

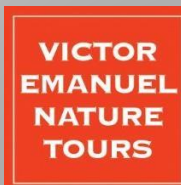
Sandy

MontclairBirdClub100@gmail.com

Upcoming VENT Tours

VentBird.com

United Kingdom	Jewels of the Coast	May 3–17, 2023
France	Birds and Art in Provence	May 22–30, 2023
Colorado	A Summer Stay in Estes Park	June 18–24, 2023; June 17–23, 2024
Colorado	Northeast Colorado	June 24–27, 2023; June 23–26, 2024
Germany	Birds and Art in Berlin	September 28 – October 7, 2023
Italy	Venice and the Po Delta	October 7–15, 2023
Israel	Birds and Culture in the Holy Land	November 3–15, 2023
Nebraska	Sandhill Cranes and Prairie Chickens	March 15–22, 2024
Alabama	The Gulf Coast and Dauphin Island	April 21–26, 2024
Greece	The North of Greece	May 5–20, 2024
Scotland	Wild Scotland	May 26 – June 27, 2024
Spain	Birds and Art in Asturias	August 28 – September 6, 2024



In This Issue

Page 1: Northern shoveler, by Sandy Sorkin (SS)

Page 16: Kestrel (SS)

April Virtual Bird Walk

The theme for April 20: “Woodpeckers”

You select the birds.

You are welcome to display your own images or forward them to Sandy at MontclairBirdClub100@gmail.com, to be included in a group PowerPoint.



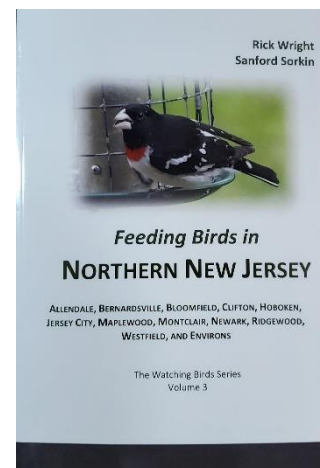
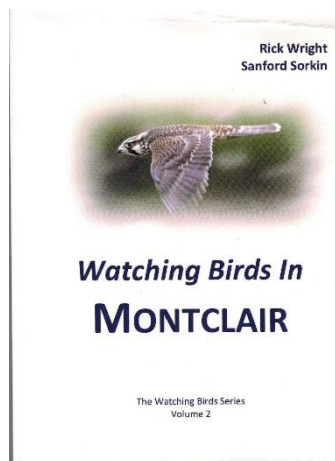
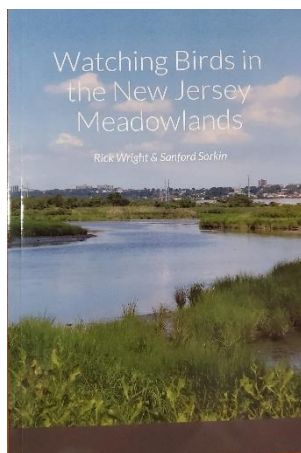
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The MBC Bulletin Bird

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**The Broadwing Editor
and Photographer**Sandy Sorkin

THE BROADWING

The *Broadwing* is published ten times a year:
We vacation during July and August.

Send photos, field notes, or articles to Sandy at
MontclairBirdClub100@gmail.com.

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